In the claims

1. – 8. (Cancelled)

9.   (Previously Presented) A system for modifying an application in substantially real-time during execution without suspending or terminating the application, comprising:

an application server running a JAVA virtual machine on which the application executes;

an object shell console that attaches to the application through a JAVA RMI serving as a system independent interface while it is running to obtain program data defining the underlying program structure of the application including at least one object language component;

a graphical user interface in the object shell console that is used to assist a maintenance person in modifying the program data of the application; and

a command line for accepting a command to be executed, said command when executed will cause the execution of the application to be modified without suspending or terminating the application.

10.   (Original) The system recited in claim 9, further comprising:

a vector for establishing an order of method execution in the application:

a command line for entering a new vector comprising a different order for executing the methods in the application; and

wherein entering the new vector in the command line establishes the different order of method execution.

11.   (Original) The system recited in claim 9, further comprising a data cache in a memory of the application server, said data cache being modified by the command.

12.   (Original) The system recited in claim 9, further comprising:

a terse logging operation that provides terse diagnostic messages;

a detailed logging operation that provides detailed diagnostic messages; and

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means for allowing a maintenance person to select detailed diagnostic messages if an error occurs without suspending or terminating the application.

13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Original) The system recited in claim 9, wherein the application is written in an interpreter programming language.

15.   (Original) The system recited in claim 9, wherein the program data comprises at least one method related that is executed in the application, further comprising:

means for accepting a selection of a method from the program data; and

means for invoking the method from the command line with at least one new argument.

16.   (Original) The system recited in claim 9, wherein the program data comprises at least one method related that is executed in the application, further comprising:

means for accepting a selection of a method from the program data;

a prompt to prompt the maintenance person for at least one new argument value; and

means for invoking the method with the at least one new argument value.

17.   (Previously Presented) A system for modifying an executing application in substantially real-time, comprising:

a computer running a JAVA virtual machine on which the application is executing;

means that includes a JAVA RMI system independent interface for attaching to the executing application so that program data that defines the underlying program structure and that includes at least one object language component is extracted from the executing application;

a display device for displaying the program data to a maintenance person;

means for accepting a command from the maintenance person; and

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means for invoking the command to thereby cause the program data of the application to be modified in accordance with the command without suspending or terminating the application.

18.   (Original) The system recited in claim 17, wherein the application is written in an interpreter programming language.

19.   (Cancelled).

20.   (Original) The system recited in claim 17, wherein the program data includes one or more methods that are executing in the application, further comprising:

means for accepting a selection of a method from the display of the program data; and

means for invoking the method from the command line with at least one new argument.

21.   (Original) The system recited in claim 17, wherein the program data includes one or more methods that are executing in the application, further comprising:

means for accepting a selection of a method from the display of the program data;

a prompt to prompt the maintenance person for at least one argument value; and

means for invoking the method with the at least one argument.

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